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The author urges that these defects be remedied while there is still time. Resources should be studied; materials and munitions stored up; national military forces should be placed altogether in the control of the federal government; and military service should be expected of all citizens as an obligation of their citizenship, boys and young men receiving, partly in connection with their youthful studies, military training, something after the manner of the system now prevailing in Switzerland or Australia.

The reviewer feels that in recommending this book—and he does recommend it heartily—he is doing service to readers and also to the country.

EDWARD RAYMOND TURNER.

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COUNTER-CURRENTS. By Agnes Repplier. New York and Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Miss Repplier is one of the few voices crying in the wilderness of American sentimentalism. We Americans find it so hard to see the world as it is and “see it whole”—the very thing the Greeks did with such increasing unconsciousness. Culture in the vital, comprehensive sense of open-mindedness seems so long in coming to dwell with any large section of our people. We are prone to substitute heart-mastery and dollar-mastery for head-mastery. It is for some such reasons as these, then, that a real treat is afforded to those who re-read the present essays by Miss Repplier collected from the *Atlantic* and the *Unpopular Review*.

With few exceptions,—Samuel McC. Crothers, Paul Elmer More, and a scant half dozen more,—Miss Repplier has the ability to see clearly both sides of the many problems of our complicated life. She is a conservative, possibly, but she does not condemn the new until it has been given a chance to show its value, and then only if it has been proved worthless. When both viewpoints have been assessed, she seeks to make a fundamental synthesis, and neither takes a headlong plunge after the latest fad on the slim evolutionary chance of its being the best, nor contents herself with looking backwards to see the only practical way of doing things. This does not mean that every reader will agree with all the conclusions drawn, but that there will probably

be general agreement, and that few will fail to applaud the attitude taken and the method of attack.

Writing in an easy, polished style, Miss Repplier considers many of the questions most discussed to-day. Here are a few of the titles: *The Cost of Modern Sentiment*, *Christianity and the War*, *The Repeal of Reticence*, *The Modern Immigrant*, *Americanism*; and in each case the rowing is up-stream, counter to the current of popular opinion. In one essay particularly, perhaps, many will rejoice and chuckle at the body-blows dealt to the quackery, so prevalent nowadays, about the "Schools of To-morrow." While candidly accepting many of the results of modern educational philosophy, she unsparingly ridicules the attempts, so often made by utterly incompetent teachers, to divorce interest from effort, learning by doing from learning by thinking, and in general the production of pupils who know a great deal about many subjects but who are not masters of a single one.

But whatever one's intellectual habits, the reading of such stimulating essays cannot fail to awaken thought, and thought when once aroused and given sufficient scope leads to mental breadth and poise—the guide-posts to the dwelling of culture.

W. S. RUSK.

ATLANTIC CLASSICS. Boston: The Atlantic Monthly Company.

Among the sixteen contributors to this volume there are a few who have won a high place in contemporary American literature,—such as Agnes Repplier, Margaret Sherwood, Dallas Lore Sharp, Walter Prichard Eaton,—but as a whole the essays exhibit a lack of vigorous and interesting personality, of high seriousness, and of grace of style. Miss Sherwood, in her essay "The Other Side," complains that nowadays we are "too insistently contemporaneous," and that we are "more and more breaking with the past." And Walter Prichard Eaton in his "A Confession in Prose" laments the lack of style in our magazine articles of to-day. Our cheaper magazines, he declares, are "almost blatant in their self-puffery" and "none the less cravenly submissive to what they deem popular demand." "The 'triumphantly intricate' sentence celebrated by Walter Pater would